

Product/Service Description Document
Reformatting Non-Precipitation
Weather (NPW) Products

Part I - Mission Connection

- a. Product/Service Description - As part of the ongoing Hazard Simplification Project, the National Weather Service (NWS) is planning to reformat Non-Precipitation Weather Hazard products (NPW) for the purpose of clarifying hazard messages.
- All current and proposed products would be reformatted into a "What," "Where," "When," and "Impacts" information format.
 - "Impacts" will be displayed below the "What," "Where," "When" information with "Precautionary/Preparedness Actions" listed below the "Impacts." An option to include "Additional Details" will be located below the "Impacts" and above the "Precautionary/ Preparedness Actions".
- b. Product Type - Operational
- c. Purpose - Social science research indicates users of NWS products can become confused by the format of hazard messages NWS issues before and during active weather. Especially while dangerous weather is unfolding, it is critical that NWS hazard messages are simple, short and direct.
- d. Audience - The target audiences for these products are customers and partners such as emergency managers, state and local officials including School Superintendents, Departments of Transportation (DOTs), media and the general public. This change affects all Weather Forecast Offices.
- e. Presentation Format - These are text based products, which appear on the Watch, Warning, and Advisory page on weather.gov and all other standard dissemination methods. Some are sent via NOAA Weather Radio and the Emergency Alert System.
- f. Feedback Method - A public survey on the subject change closed on June 15, 2018. With over 5,000 responses, there was strong approval for reformatting (76%) of products. As a result, reformatting of NPW products have been approved for operational status. Consolidation and renaming of NPW products will be announced at a later date.

Part II - Technical Description

- a. Format and Science Basis - The format is described in Part I, Section a. Forecasters will use available tools to determine the risk of these hazards occurring in their areas and issue according to criteria and expected impacts.

b. Availability - These products will be available at all times and issued when criteria are met.

c. An example of the new format is shown here:

...HIGH WIND WARNING IN EFFECT FROM SATURDAY MORNING THROUGH SATURDAY AFTERNOON...

* WHAT...East winds 25 to 35 mph with gusts up to 60 mph are expected.

* WHERE...Cape Cod, Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard and Block Island.

* WHEN...From Saturday morning through Saturday afternoon.

* IMPACTS...High winds may move loose debris, damage property and cause power outages. Travel may be difficult, especially when using high profile vehicles.

* ADDITIONAL DETAILS...People are urged to secure loose objects that could be blown around or damaged by the wind.

PRECAUTIONARY/PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS...

People are urged to secure loose objects that could be blown around or damaged by the wind.